

## **Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities**

### Monthly Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 17 2012, 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Seattle City Hall - Room 370

Commissioners Present: Mark Adreon, Mike Barta, Vickie Foster, Laura Gramer, Jonathan Porter, Deborah Witmer

Commissioners Absent: Joshua Caple, Patricia Copeland, Hope Drummond, Emerson Sekins, Gary Stobbe

Guests: Jeremy Racca, Lauren Andre, Tim Shockley, Roxanne Vierra, Jason Phillips

SOCCR Staff Present: Felicia Yearwood, Michael Chin

Call to Order: 4:35

Public Comment:

- Jeremy Racca, staff to Councilmember Bruce Harrell, desires to increase communication and policy discussion with the Commission to benefit people with disabilities
- Lauren Andre, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP). Enforces the Rehabilitation Act section 403, which prohibits discrimination in employment.
- Timothy Shockley, Library Equal Access Program.
  - Accessibility Camp June 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Paralympic Celebration, June 14 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: April 2012 approved as read

### SOCR Report:

Michael Chin

- Fair Housing Training June 6, 2012; will provide ASL interpreters
- Forty percent of housing complaints are based on disability; recent spike in claims against shelters and transitional housing
- Paid Sick and Safe Time regulations are being revised
- Annual HUD review coming up soon
- Investigator position open
- Revamping database – Mark Adreon suggested that the Commission review the disability related question to ensure that it is appropriate and inviting

### Guest Speakers:

#### **Roxanne Vierra, Investigator and Accessibility Specialist, King County Office of Civil Rights**

- Developed disability policy and provide technical assistance to all County departments
- Each department has at least one accessibility liaison
- Roxanne surveys County buildings and reviews blueprints prior to County construction projects
- Roxanne serves on the King County Elections and Emergency Sign Language Disability Access Committees
- The Elections DAC is seeking members
- Roxanne would like feedback on disability fact sheets

#### **Jason Phillips, Finance and Administrative Services**

- Jason is property manager for City Hall, Justice Center, and Pacific Place garages
- Currently gathering information and seeking designer to develop a wayfinding project for the civic core
- Mike Barta shared a contact who teaches ADA at UW

## Committee Reports:

- Executive: Mike Barta and Mary Beth Lum briefed the City Council on the Commission's work plan. Jonathan Porter met with the Mayor and reviewed the work plan. The City is looking at ways to mitigate loss of the ride free zone by providing a shuttle van on a loop to shelters, hospitals, and the downtown area. The Mayor expressed interest in the Commission's emergency preparedness work.
- Education: meets 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday 6:00 p.m. at Charlie's on Broadway; Rebecca Cory will train the SOCR staff on universal design concepts; Deborah Witmer to staff information booth at the "What If" expo (emergency planning) at Northgate Mall on June 9<sup>th</sup>; seeking additional Commissioners to volunteer
- Nominating: Vickie Foster and Mike Barta volunteered to serve on the interview panel; Deborah Witmer is available as an alternate

## New Business:

Discussion ensued regarding the need for a content management system